

Ywaine and Gawaine,

? First half of the 14th century, MS early 15th century

based on *Yvain, ou le chevalier au lion* by Chrétien de Troyes, c. 1180

1. ll. 1-482, Introduction and Colgrentant's adventure

	Almyghti God that made mankyn, He schilde His servandes out of syn And mayntene tham with myght and mayne That herkens Ywayne and Gawayne;	<i>mankind protects; from who listens to</i>	Almighty God who made mankind, shield His servants from sin and maintain them with strength who hear <i>Ywain and Gawain</i> .
5	Thai war knightes of the Tabyl Rownde, Tharfore listens a lytel stownde. Arthure, the Kyng of Yngland, That wan al Wales with his hand And al Scotland, als sayes the buke,	<i>little while conquered as</i>	They were knights of the Round Table, so listen a little while. Arthur, King of England, who won all of Wales and Scotland as the book says,
10	And mani mo, if men wil luke, Of al knightes he bare the pryse. In werld was none so war ne wise. Trew he was in alkyn thing. Als it byfel to swilk a kyng,	<i>more was most worthy prudent every such</i>	and many more if men will look, bore the prize of all knights. There was no one in the world so wise; he was true in all things, as befits such a king.
15	He made a feste, the soth to say, Opon the Witsononday At Kerdyf that es in Wales. And efter mete thare in the hales Ful grete and gay was the assemblé	<i>feast; truth Whitsunday Cardiff after dinner; pavilions</i>	Arthur held a feast on Whitsunday at Cardiff in Wales, and in the halls after dinner there was a great and joyous assembly
20	Of lordes and ladies of that cuntré, And als of kynghtes war and wyse And damisels of mykel pryse. Ilkane with other made grete gamin And grete solace als thai war samin.	<i>great excellence each one; great pleasure as; were assembled</i>	of lords and ladies of that country, of wise and prudent knights and maidens of great esteem. And they amused each other with the pleasure of their company.
25	Fast thai carped and curtaysly Of dedes of armes and of veneri And of gude knightes that lyfed then, And how men might tham kyndeli ken By doghtines of thaire gude dede	<i>boasted feats; hunting lived truly know valor</i>	They spoke courteously of deeds of arms and hunting, and of good knights who lived before and how they might be known by the bravery of their deeds
30	On ilka syde, wharesum thai yede - For thai war stif in ilka stowre. And tharfore gat thai grete honowre. Thai tald of more trewth tham bitwene Than now omang men here es sene,	<i>every; wherever; went strong; every fight got accounted for; between among; is</i>	wherever they went, for they were unrelenting in battle and earned great honor. They valued truth more between them than is now seen among men,
35	For trowth and luf es al bylaft; Men uses now another craft. With worde men makes it trew and stabil, Bot in thaire faith es nocht bot fabil; With the mowth men makes it hale,	<i>love; abandoned words (i.e., writing) nothing but lies mouth; sweet</i>	for truth and love are lost, and men practice another craft. They use words to make things seem true and stable, but it is all but fable; the thing seems sound in their mouth but there is no truth in their tale.
40	Bot trew trowth es nane in the tale. Tharfore hereof now wil I blyn, Of the Kyng Arthure I wil bygin And of his curtayse cumpany; Thare was the flowre of chevallry.	<i>stop</i>	I will stop speaking of this and begin telling of Arthure and his courteous company, the flower of chivalry,
45	Swilk lose thai wan with speres-horde Over al the werld went the worde. After mete went the Kyng Into chamber to slepeing,	<i>such praise; spearpoint</i>	who won such renown with their spears that their fame went all over the world. After dinner the king went to the chamber to sleep;

	And also went with him the Quene.		and the queen went with him.
50	That byheld thai al bydene, For thai saw tham never so On high dayes to chamber go. Bot sone, when thai war went to slepe, Knyghtes sat the dor to kepe:	<i>one and all</i>	Everyone noticed, for they had never seen them go to the chamber on high days. When the two were asleep, knights soon came to guard the door:
55	Sir Dedyne and Sir Segramore, Sir Gawayn and Sir Kay sat thore, And also sat thare Sir Ywaine And Colgrevice of mekyl mayn.	<i>guard</i> <i>there</i>	Sir Dedine, Sir Sagramor, Sir Gawain and Sir Kay sat there, and so did Sir Ywain, and mighty Colgrevice.
60	This knight that hight Colgrevice, Tald his felows of a chance And of a stowre he had in bene, And al his tale herd the Quene. The chamber dore sho has unshet, And down omang tham scho hir set;	<i>much strength</i> <i>was called</i> <i>situation</i> <i>battle; been in</i>	This knight named Colgrevice told his fellows of an adventure and battle he had been in, and the queen heard his tale. She opened the chamber door and suddenly sat down among them
65	Sodainli sho sat down right, Or ani of tham of hir had sight Bot Colgrevice rase up in hy, And thareof had Syr Kay envy, For he was of his tong a skalde, And forto boste was he ful balde.	<i>opened</i> <i>suddenly</i> <i>before</i> <i>rose; haste</i>	before anyone saw her. But Colgrevice quickly rose up, which made Sir Kay, who had a sharp, boastful tongue, envious.
70	"Ow, Colgrevice," said Sir Kay, "Ful light of lepes has thou bene ay. Thou wenes now that the sal fall Forto be hendest of us all.	<i>tongue a scold</i> <i>boast; bold</i> <i>oh</i> <i>quick to rise; ever been</i> <i>think; you shall be held</i> <i>to be most courteous</i>	"Well, Colgrevice," said Sir Kay, "you've ever been light on your feet! You suppose that now you will be considered the most gracious of us all.
75	And the Quene sal understand, That here es none so unkunand Al if thou rase and we sat styll. We ne dyd it for none yll, Ne for no manere of fayntise, Ne us denyd nocht forto rise,	<i>shall</i> <i>ignorant</i> <i>arose</i>	The queen shall understand that none of us are so ignorant, though you rose and we sat still, that we did it for ill or through sluggishness or would not have risen had we seen her."
80	That we ne had resen had we hyr sene." "Sir Kay, I wote wele," sayd the Quene, "And it war gude thou left swilk sawes And nocht despise so thi felawes."	<i>sluggishness;</i> <i>deigned (refused)</i> <i>arisen; seen</i> <i>know</i> <i>quit such speech</i>	"Sir Kay," said the queen, "I know that well, and it would be good if you left off such words and not despise your fellows."
85	"Madame," he said, "by Goddes dome, We ne wist no thing of thi come And if we did nocht curtaysly, Takes to no velany. Bot pray ye now this gentil man To tel the tale that he bygan."	<i>judgment</i> <i>knew; coming</i> <i>[behave] courteously</i> <i>account it no discourtesy</i>	"Madam," he replied, "by God's doom, we did not know of your coming, and if we were not courteous, do not take it as disrespect. But ask now this nobleman to tell the tale he began."
90	Colgrevice said to Sir Kay: "Bi grete God that aw this day, Na mare manes me thi flyt Than it war a flies byt.	<i>made</i> <i>bothers; reproach</i> <i>bite</i>	Colgrevice told Sir Kay: "By God who holds this day, your quarreling bothers me no more than a fly's bite;
95	Ful oft wele better men than I Has thou desspised desspytusedly. It es ful semeli, als me think, A brok omang men forto stynk. So it fars by the, Syr Kay:	<i>contemptuously</i> <i>as it seems to me</i> <i>badger</i> <i>fares</i>	you have often spitefully resented better men than I. In my opinion, it is full seemly for a badger to stink among men. And so it fares with you, Sir Kay;
100	Of weked wordes has thou bene ay. And, sen thi wordes er wikked and fell,	<i>evil words; ever been</i> <i>since; are; fierce</i>	you have always been wicked of words, and because your words are wicked

<p>This time tharto na more I tell, Bot of the thing that I bygan." And sone Sir Kay him answerd than 105 And said ful tite unto the Quene: "Madame, if ye had noght here bene, We sold have herd a selly case; Now let ye us of oure solace. Tharfore, madame, we wald yow pray, 110 That ye cumand him to say And tel forth, als he had tyght." Than answerd that hende knight: "Mi lady es so avyse, That scho wil noght cumand me 115 To tel that towches me to ill; Scho es noght of so weked will." Sir Kai said than ful smertli: "Madame, al hale this cumpani Praies yow hertly now omell, 120 That he his tale forth might tell. If ye wil noght for oure praying, For faith ye aw unto the kyng, Cumandes him his tale to tell, That we mai here how it byfell." 125 Than said the Quene, "Sir Colgrevance, I prai the tak to no grevance This kene karping of Syr Kay; Of weked wordes has he bene ay, So that none may him chastise. 130 Tharfore I prai the, on al wise, That thou let noght for his sawes, At tel to me and thi felawes Al thi tale, how it bytid. For my luf I the pray and byd." 135 "Sertes, madame, that es me lath Bot for I wil noght mak yow wrath, Yowre cumandment I sal fulfill, If ye wil listen me untill, With hertes and eres understandes; 140 And I sal tel yow swilk tithandes, That ye herd never none slike Reherced in no kynges ryke. Bot word fares als dose the wind, Bot if men it in hert bynd; 145 And, wordes wo so trewly tase, By the eres into the hert it gase, And in the hert thare es the horde And knawing of ilk mans worde. "Herkenes, hende unto my spell. 150 Trofels sal I yow nane tell, Ne lesinges forto ger yow lagh, Bot I sal say right als I sagh. Now als this time sex yere I rade allane, als ye sal here,</p>	<p><i>quickly</i></p> <p><i>should; marvelous incident</i> <i>you deprive us; entertainment</i></p> <p><i>command; speak</i> <i>as; intended</i> <i>courteous</i> <i>wise</i></p> <p><i>what redounds to my discredit</i> <i>wicked</i></p> <p><i>whole</i> <i>heartily; meanwhile</i></p> <p><i>owe</i></p> <p><i>bitter nagging</i> <i>always</i></p> <p><i>wholeheartedly</i> <i>cease</i> <i>but</i> <i>happened</i></p> <p><i>reluctant</i> <i>angry</i></p> <p><i>to</i></p> <p><i>such tidings</i> <i>like 'em</i> <i>recounted; realm</i></p> <p><i>who; takes</i> <i>goes</i> <i>treasury</i> <i>each</i> <i>good sirs, gracious lady; story</i> <i>trivial tales shall</i> <i>lies; make you laugh</i> <i>saw</i> <i>six years ago</i> <i>rode; hear</i></p>	<p>so this time there is no more to say. But about the story that I began—." Sir Kay interrupted him and quickly said to the queen: "Madam, if you had not been here, we would have heard a marvelous tale. So that we may have our pleasure, we pray you, Madam, to command him speak to tell his story as he meant." The courteous knight replied, "My lady is so discreet that she will not force me to tell that which distresses me; she is not of such wicked will." But Sir Kay said sharply, "Madame, this whole company together asks you heartily to have Colgrevance tell his tale so that we may hear what befell, if not on account of our request, then for the faith you owe to the king." "Sir Colgrevance," said the queen, "I pray you take no offense at Sir Kay's carping; he has always been wicked of speech, and no one may chastise him. Therefore I pray you, by all means, that you not let his words stop you, and tell me and your fellows all your tale and how it happened, I pray and bid you for my love." "I am loathe to do so, Madam, but I will fulfil your commandment so that I don't anger you. If you will listen to me with understanding hearts and ears, I will tell you tidings such as you have never heard in any king's realm. But words fare as does the wind unless men bind them in their heart; words, when truly taken, pass the ears and enter the heart, where there is the treasure of each man's speech. So listen to my tale; I will tell you no trifles or lies to make you laugh, but exactly what I saw. At this time six years ago I rode alone, as you shall hear,</p>
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155	About forto seke aventurs, Wele armid in gude armurs. In a frith I fand a strete; Ful thik and hard, I you bihete, With thornes, breres, and moni a quyn.	<i>seek</i>	well armed to seek adventures.
160	Nerehand al day I rade thareyn, And thurgh I past with mekyl payn. Than come I sone into a playn, Whare I gan se a bretise brade, And thederward ful fast I rade.	<i>wood; path</i> <i>assure</i> <i>prickly branches; quince tree</i> <i>nearly</i> <i>great pain</i> <i>clearing</i> <i>parapet broad</i>	In a forest I found a path, thick with thorns, briars and whin. I rode nearly all day with great difficulty and then came into a plain where I saw a broad stronghold and rode quickly to it.
165	I saw the walles and the dyke, And hertly wele it gan me lyke; And on the drawbrig saw I stand A knight with fawkon on his hand. This ilk knight, that be ye balde, Was lord and keper of that halde.	<i>moat</i> <i>heartily</i> <i>falcon</i> <i>same; assured</i> <i>castle</i>	I saw the walls and the dyke, which pleased me heartily. A knight, who was lord and keeper of the place, stood on the drawbridge with a falcon on his hand.
170	I hailed him kindly als I kowth; He answerd me mildeli with mowth. Mi sterap toke that hende knight And kindly cumanded me to lyght; His cumandment I did onane, And into hall sone war we tane.	<i>hailed; could</i> <i>courteous speech</i> <i>stirrup</i> <i>dismount</i> <i>straight away</i> <i>taken</i>	We greeted each other politely, and the gracious knight took my stirrup and told me to dismount, which I did presently, and we soon went into the hall.
175	He thanked God, that gude man, Sevyn sithes or ever he blan, And the way that me theder broght, And als the aventurs that I soght. "Thus went we in, God do him mede, And in his hand he led my stede. When we are in that fayre palays - It was ful worthly wroght always -	<i>times before; ceased</i> <i>thither</i> <i>give him recompense</i>	The good man thanked God seven times at least, and the way that brought me there and the adventures I sought. Thus we entered, God reward him, and he led my steed. When we were in that fair, worthily wrought palace, I saw no living man around.
185	I saw no man of moder born. Bot a burde hang us biforn, Was nowther of yren ne of tre, Ne I ne wist whareof it might be. And by that bord hang a mall.	<i>rectangular board</i> <i>neither of iron nor wood</i> <i>hammer</i>	There was a board hanging before us, made of neither iron, wood, nor any material I know of, and a mallet beside it.
190	The knyght smate on tharwithal Thrise, and by then might men se Bifore him come a faire menye, Curtayse men in worde and dede. To stabil sone thai led mi stede.	<i>thrice</i> <i>group of followers</i>	The knight struck the board with the mallet three times, and a company of fair, courteous men appeared, who led my horse to the stable.
195	"A damisel come unto me, The semeliest that ever I se, Lufsumer lifed never in land. Hendly scho toke me by the hand, And sone that gentyl creature	<i>lovelier lived</i> <i>courteously</i>	A maiden came to me, the most beautiful I have ever seen – a lovelier one never lived in this land. She took me by the hand, and soon that gentle creature unlaced my armor,
200	Al unlaced myne armure. Into a chamber sho me led, And with a mantil scho me cled: It was of purpore faire and fine And the pane of riche ermyne.	<i>clothed</i> <i>purple cloth</i> <i>lining</i>	and led me into a chamber where she clad me in a fine purple cloak lined with ermine.
205	Al the folk war went us fra, And thare was none than bot we twa. Scho served me hendely to hend:	<i>courteously close by</i>	All the people left us and we were alone, and she served me graciously

	Hir maners might no man amend. Of tong sho was trew and renable		with faultless manners and true speech,
210	And of hir semblant soft and stabile. Ful fain I wald, if that I might, Have woned with that swete wight. And, when we sold go to sopere, That lady with a lufsom chere	<i>tongue; eloquent demeanor gladly lived; person should gracious manner</i>	soft and reliable in her expression. I would have lived with that sweet person if I could. When it was time for supper, that lovely lady
215	Led me down into the hall. Thare war we served wele at all; It nedes noght to tel the mese, For wonder wele war we at esse. Byfor me sat the lady bright	<i>food ease</i>	led me to the hall, where we were served well. There is no need to tell the courses; we were made wondrously at ease. The lady sat before me
220	Curtaisly my mete to dyght; Us wanted nowther baken ne roste. And efter soper sayd myne oste That he cowth noght tel the day That ani knight are with him lay,	<i>prepare lacked; meat pie; roast meat host could not recall previously</i>	and courteously prepared my food, which lacked neither pies nor roasts. After supper, my host said he could not remember the day a knight had stayed with him
225	Or that ani adventures soght. Tharfore he prayed me, if I moght, On al wise, when I come ogayne, That I sold cum to him sertayne. I said, "Sir, gladly, yf I may."	<i>might</i>	or sought any adventures. So he asked me if I could, by all means, when I returned, be sure to come to him again, and I said I would gladly if I could;
230	It had bene shame have said him nay. "That night had I ful gude rest And mi stede esed of the best. Alsome als it was dayes lyght, Forth to fare sone was I dyght.	<i>provided comfort</i>	it would have been shameful to refuse. I had a good sleep that night, and my steed was well rested. I prepared to leave at daybreak,
235	Mi leve of mine ost toke I thare And went mi way withowten mare, Aventures forto layt in land. A faire forest sone I fand. Me thoght mi hap thare fel ful hard,	<i>host seek came upon by chance</i>	took leave of my host, and left without more ado to find adventures. I soon found a fair forest but thought it bad luck,
240	For thare was mani a wilde lebard, Lions, beres, bath bul and bare, That rewfully gan rope and rare. Oway I drogh me, and with that I saw sone whare a man sat	<i>leopard boar sorrowfully; cry out; roar drew</i>	for there were many wild leopards, lions, bears, bulls and boars that roared ruefully. I turned away and soon saw a man sitting
245	On a lawnd, the fowlest wight That ever yit man saw in syght. He was a lathly creature, For fowl he was out of mesure; A wonder mace in hand he hade,	<i>clearing; ugliest creature loathsome ugly wonderful club</i>	on a mound holding a mace; he was a loathly creature, the foulest ever seen.
250	And sone mi way to him I made. His hevyd, me thoght, was als grete Als of a rowncy or a nete; Unto his belt hang his hare, And efter that byheld I mare.	<i>head saddle-horse; ox down to; hair more</i>	I made my way towards him and saw that his head was as great as that of a horse or ox, and his hair hung down to his belt. As I continued to look at him,
255	To his forhede byheld I than, Was bradder than twa large span; He had eres als ane olyfant And was wele more than geant. His face was ful brade and flat;	<i>two; handbreadths like an elephant bigger than a giant broad</i>	I saw that his forehead was broader than the span of two large hands, and his ears like an elephant's. The giant man had a wide, flat face
260	His nese was cutted als a cat;	<i>snubbed</i>	and a nose like a cat's;

	His browes war like litel buskes; And his tethe like bare tuskes. A ful grete bulge opon his bak - Thare was noght made withowten lac.	<i>bushes</i> <i>boar's tusks</i>	his brows were like little bushes and his teeth like boar tusks. He had a huge bulge on his back,
265	His chin was fast until his brest; On his mace he gan him rest. Also it was a wonder wede, That the cherle yn gede; Nowther of wol ne of line	<i>fault</i> <i>firmly fixed</i> <i>club</i> <i>wondrous garment</i> <i>was dressed in</i> <i>wool; linen</i>	and his chin was attached to his chest. He rested on his club, and was dressed in curious clothing, made neither of wool or linen.
270	Was the wede that he went yn. "When he me sagh, he stode upright. I frayned him if he wolde fight, For tharto was I in gude will, Bot als a beste than stode he still.	<i>clothing</i> <i>asked</i>	He stood up when he saw me, and I asked if he wanted to fight, for I was willing. But he stood as still as a beast,
275	I hopid that he no wittes kowth, No reson forto speke with mowth. To him I spak ful hardily And said, 'What ertow, belamy?' He said ogain, 'I am a man.'	<i>thought; had no ability to</i> <i>understand</i> <i>are you, fair friend</i>	so I thought he had no wits or reason to enable him to speak. I boldly asked him, 'What are you, friend?' and he answered, 'I am a man!'
280	I said, 'Swilk saw I never nane. What ertow?' alone said he. I said, 'Swilk als thou here may se.' I said, 'What does thou here allane?'	<i>such</i> <i>instantly</i> <i>alone</i>	I said, 'I have never seen such a one,' and he asked me, 'What are you?' I replied, 'Such as you see. What do you do here alone?'
285	He said, 'I kepe thir bestes ilkane.' I said, 'That es mervaille, think me, For I herd never of man bot the In wildernes ne in forestes, That kepeing had of wilde bestes, Bot thai war bunden fast in halde.'	<i>each one</i> <i>bound; confinement</i>	He told me, 'I tend all these beasts.' I said, 'This is a marvel to me, for I have never heard of any but you in wilderness or forest who kept wild beasts unless they were bound fast.'
290	He said, 'Of thire es none so balde Nowther by day ne bi night Anes to pas out of mi sight.' I sayd, 'How so? Tel me thi scill.' 'Parfay,' he said, 'gladly I will.'	<i>fearless</i> <i>alone</i> <i>skill</i> <i>by my faith</i>	He said, 'None of them are so bold as to pass out of my sight day or night.' I asked, 'How so? Explain your skill,' which he gladly did:
295	He said, 'In al this faire foreste Es thare none so wilde beste, That remu dar, bot stil stand, When I am to him cumand. Any ay, when that I wil him fang	 <i>dare to move</i> <i>coming</i> <i>seize</i>	'There is no beast in this forest that dares to move and not stand still when I come to him. And when I seize him with my strong fingers,
300	With mi fingers that er strang, I ger him cri on swilk manere, That al the bestes when thai him here, Obout me than cum thai all, And to mi fete fast thai fall,	<i>make; such</i> <i>hear</i>	I make him cry in such a manner that when all the beasts hear him, they come to me and fall at my feet to beg mercy in their way.
305	On thaire manere merci to cry. Bot understand now redyli, Olyve es thare lifand no ma Bot I that durst omang tham ga, That he ne sold sone be al torent.	<i>readily</i> <i>alive; more</i>	But understand, I am the only man alive who can go among them without being torn apart.
310	Bot thai er at my comandment; To me thai cum when I tham call, And I am maister of tham all.' "Than he asked onone right,	<i>should soon be torn to pieces</i> <i>unless; are</i> <i>straight away</i>	They are under my control and come when I call them; I am master of them all.' He then asked what kind

<p>What man I was. I said, 'A knyght 315 That soght aventurs in that land, My body to asai and fande. And I the pray of thi kownsayle, Thou teche me to sum mervayle.' He said, 'I can no wonders tell, 320 Bot here bisyde es a well. Wend theder and do als I say; Thou passes noght al quite oway. Folow forth this ilk strete, And sone sum mervayles sal thou mete. 325 The well es under the fairest tre That ever was in this cuntré; By that well hinges a bacyne That es of gold gude and fyne, With a cheyne, trewly to tell, 330 That wil reche into the well. Thare es a chapel nere tharby, That nobil es and ful lufely. By the well standes a stane; Tak the bacyn sone onane 335 And cast on water with thi hand, And sone thou sal se new tithand. A storme sal rise and a tempest Al about, by est and west; Thou sal here mani thonor-blast 340 Al about the blawand fast. And thare sal cum slik slete and rayne That unnese sal thou stand ogayne; Of lightnes sal thou se a lowe, Unnethes thou sal thi selven knowe. 345 And if thou pas withowten grevance, Than has thou the fairest chance, That ever yit had any knyght, That theder come to kyth his myght.' "Than toke I leve and went my way 350 And rade unto the midday. By than I come whare I sold be, I saw the chapel and the tre. Thare I fand the fayrest thorne That ever groued sen God was born. 355 So thik it was with leves grene, Might no rayn cum tharbytwene; And that grenes lastes ay, For no winter dere yt may. I fand the bacyn als he talde, 360 And the wel with water kalde. An amerawd was the stane - Richer saw I never nane - On fowre rubyes on heght standand. Thaire light lasted over al the land, 365 And when I saw that semely syght, It made me bath joyful and lyght.</p>	<p><i>test; try</i></p> <p><i>direct</i></p> <p><i>go</i> <i>you won't get away so easily</i> <i>same path</i></p> <p><i>hangs; basin</i></p> <p><i>quickly</i></p> <p><i>shall see; tidings</i></p> <p><i>hear; thunderblasts</i> <i>you blowing fiercely</i> <i>such sleet</i> <i>with difficulty</i> <i>brightness; flame</i> <i>hardly</i> <i>harm</i></p> <p><i>proclaim</i></p> <p><i>rode</i> <i>by [the time] when; should</i></p> <p><i>grew since</i></p> <p><i>always</i> <i>may harm it</i> <i>basin</i> <i>cold</i> <i>emerald; stone</i></p> <p><i>standing aloft</i> <i>shone</i> <i>pleasing</i> <i>both; light-hearted</i></p>	<p>of man I was, and I told him 'I am a knight seeking adventures to test my body. I pray for your advice in directing me to some wonder.' "‘He replied, ‘I can tell no wonders, but there is a well close by. Go there and do as I say; you will not come away easily. Follow this path and you will soon meet some marvels. There is a well under the fairest tree ever to grow in this country, A gold basin hangs by the well on a chain, that reaches into the well.</p> <p>There is a noble and beautiful chapel nearby. A stone stands by the well. Take the basin quickly and with your hand cast water on the stone, and soon you will see new tidings. A storm and tempest will rise all about, east and west. You will hear thunder blasting, sleet and rain will come that will be difficult to withstand, and lightning will flash. You will barely know yourself, and if you pass through without harm you will have the best luck of any knight who has come there to show his might.' I took my leave and rode until midday, when I reached my destination. I saw the chapel and the tree, the most beautiful that ever grew since God was born. It was so thick with leaves that no rain could come through, and it stayed ever green, for no winter could harm it. I found the basin as he had told me, and the well of cold water. The stone was of the richest emerald I've ever seen, and the four rubies on which it stood shone their light across the land. The beautiful sight made me joyful and lighthearted.</p>
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<p>I toke the bacyn sone onane And helt water opou the stane. The weder wex than wonder-blak, 370 And the thoner fast gan crak. Thare come slike stormes of hayl and rayn, Unnethes I might stand thare ogayn; The store windes blew ful lowd, So kene come never are of clowd. 375 I was drevyn with snaw and slete, Unnethes I might stand on my fete. In my face the levening smate, I wend have brent, so was it hate, That weder made me so will of rede, 380 I hopid sone to have my dede; And sertes, if it lang had last, I hope I had never thethin past. Bot thorgh His might that tholed wownd, The storme sesed within a stownde. 385 Than wex the weder fayre ogayne, And thareof was I wonder-fayne; For best comforth of al thing Es solace efter myslikeing. "Than saw I sone a mery syght: 390 Of al the fowles that er in flyght, Lighted so thik opou that tre, That bogh ne lefe none might I se. So merily than gon thai sing, That al the wode bigan to ring; 395 Ful mery was the melody Of thaire sang and of thaire cry. Thare herd never man none swilk, Bot if ani had herd that ilk. And when that mery dyn was done, 400 Another noyse than herd I sone, Als it war of horsmen Mo than owther nyen or ten. "Sone than saw I cum a knyght; In riche armurs was he dight, 405 And sone, when I gan on him loke, Mi shelde and spere to me I toke. That knight to me hied ful fast, And kene wordes out gan he cast. He bad that I sold tel him tite, 410 Whi I did him swilk despite, With weders wakened him of rest And done him wrang in his forest. 'Tharfore,' he said, 'thou sal aby!' And with that come he egerly 415 And said I had ogayn resowne Done him grete destrucciowne, And might it never more amend. Tharfore he bad I sold me fend. And sone I smate him on the shelde,</p>	<p><i>at once</i> <i>poured</i></p> <p><i>thunder</i> <i>such</i> <i>with difficulty</i> <i>violent</i> <i>bitter; before from</i> <i>driven</i> <i>scarcely</i> <i>lightning smote</i> <i>thought to have burned; hot</i> <i>at a loss</i> <i>death</i></p> <p><i>I expect I'd never have left</i> <i>suffered wounds (i.e., Christ)</i> <i>moment</i></p> <p><i>wondrously joyous</i> <i>comfort</i> <i>unhappiness</i></p> <p><i>bough; leaf</i></p> <p><i>heard; such</i> <i>unless; same [song]</i></p> <p><i>as if</i> <i>more; either</i></p> <p><i>dressed</i></p> <p><i>hastened</i> <i>bold</i> <i>commanded; immediately</i> <i>such injury</i> <i>storms; from</i> <i>wrong</i> <i>shall pay for it</i></p> <p><i>against reason</i></p> <p><i>defend myself</i> <i>as soon as</i></p>	<p>I took the basin and poured water on the stone. The weather grew black and the thunder cracked; I could barely stand against the hail and rain storms, and the loud winds were the strongest that ever came from cloud. I was pelted with snow and sleet, so that I could hardly stand, and the lightning in my face was so hot I expected to be burned. I was so confounded by that weather that I believed I would soon be dead, and certainly if it had lasted long, I would never have passed through. But by Christ's grace the storm ceased in a moment and the fair weather returned, which made me very happy, for the best comfort of all is pleasure after discomfort. Then I saw a cheering sight; every bird that flies alighted on the tree, so that neither bough nor leaf could be seen. They sang so happily that the woods rang with their merry melody,</p> <p>such that no man has ever heard unless he has been there. When that glad sound ended, I soon heard another noise, like nine or ten horsemen.</p> <p>Soon I saw a knight dressed in rich armor, and when I looked at him I took up my shield and spear. He hurried up to me and sharply asked</p> <p>why I had insulted him by disturbing his rest with storms in his own forest. 'You shall pay for it,' he said and came at me eagerly. He said I had done him great harm for no reason, which may never be amended, and therefore to defend myself. I quickly smote his shield,</p>
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420	Mi schaft brac out in the felde, And than he bare me sone bi strenkith Out of my sadel my speres lenkith. I wate that he was largely By the shuldres mare than I;	<i>broke strength the length of my spear knew; larger</i>	and my shaft broke out into the field. Then, with his strength he threw me out of my saddle the length of my spear. I knew that he was much larger than I in the shoulders;
425	And bi the ded that I sal thole, Mi stede by his was bot a fole. For mate I lay down on the grownde, So was I stonayd in that stownde. A worde to me wald he noght say,	<i>death; suffer foal defeated (check-mated) stunned; time</i>	and by the death I will suffer, next to his steed, mine was but a foal. I was so stunned that I lay on the ground; he would speak no word to me but took my steed and went his way.
430	Bot toke my stede and went his way. Ful sarily than thare I sat, For wa I wist noght what was what. With my stede he went in hy The same way that he come by.	<i>horse then woe; knew not quickly</i>	Dejected and confused, I sat there as he hastily left with my mount. He went the same way he had come, but I dared not follow him for fear of further injury
435	And I durst folow him no ferr For dout me solde bitide werr. And also yit, by Goddes dome, I ne wist whare he bycome. "Than I thoght how I had hight	<i>farther fear I should suffer worse heaven didn't know; went promised</i>	and, by God, I still don't know where he went. Then I thought how I had promised my host, the noble knight, and his lovely lady to return if I might.
440	Unto myne ost, the hende knyght, And also til his lady bryght, To com ogayn if that I myght. Mine armurs left I thare ilkane, For els myght I noght have gane.	<i>host; gracious to armor; also</i>	I left all of my armor behind as I would not have been able to go along otherwise. When I arrived, the knight and lady were very glad to see me and greeted me kindly and behaved in every way as they had the night before.
445	Unto myne in I come by day. The hende knight and the fayre may Of my come war thai ful glade, And nobil semblant thai me made. In al thinges thai have tham born	<i>lodging maiden coming were; glad reception</i>	Soon they knew where I had been and said that they had never seen a knight go that way and come home again.
450	Als thai did the night biforn. Sone thai wist whare I had bene, And said that thai had never sene Knyght that ever theder come, Take the way ogayn home.	<i>learned</i>	And so I spent that time in this way and found the follies I had sought." "Surely," said Sir Ywain, "you are my cousin and we should love each other truly as brothers.
455	On this wise that tyme I wroght; I fand the folies that I soght." "Now sekerly," said Sir Ywayne, "Thou ert my cosyn jermayne; Trew luf suld be us bytwene,	<i>in this manner found close kinsman</i>	You are a fool for not having told me of this amazing adventure sooner, for I would have avenged you of that knight immediately and still will, if I may."
460	Als sold bytwyx brether bene. Thou ert a fole at thou ne had are Tald me of this ferly fare, For sertes I sold onone ryght Have venged the of that ilk knyght.	<i>brother not to have [told me] earlier weird event at once avenged you; same</i>	Sir Kay spoke to them with smarting, condescending words: "It's easy to see that it is after dinner! There is many a boast in a pot of wine.
465	So sal I yit, if that I may." And than als smertly sayed Syr Kay - He karpet to tham wordes grete: "It es sene, now es efter mete, Mare boste es in a pot of wyne	<i>sharply spoke; insolent is</i>	Arm yourself quickly, Sir Ywain, and to insure your return,
470	Than in a karcas of Saynt Martyne. Arme the smertly, Syr Ywayne, And sone that thou war cumen ogayne;	<i>again</i>	

	Luke thou fil wele thi panele, And in thi sadel set the wele.	<i>saddlepad place yourself well</i>	pad your saddle well and seat yourself firmly.
475	And when thou wendes, I the pray, Thi baner wele that thou desplay; And, rede I, or thou wende, Thou tak thi leve at ilka frende. And if it so bytide this nyght,	<i>goes ere you go of every friend</i>	Display your banner when you go, and I advise you to take leave of every friend before you depart. And if tonight you are bothered
480	That the in slepe dreche ani wight Or any dremis mak the rad, Turn ogayn and say I bad."	<i>vex you frightened predicted [it]</i>	by any creature in your sleep or frightened by any dreams, turn back—and say I bade you do so!"

2. II. 585-1364: Ywayne's adventure and "courtship"

585	Forth than went Sir Ywayne; He thinkes, or he cum ogayne, To wreke his kosyn at his myght. The squier has his hernays dyght; He did right als his mayster red;	<i>avenge his cousin with all armor prepared advised</i>	Sir Ywain then left, intent on avenging his cousin with all his might. The squire had prepared his armor just as he was instructed,
590	His stede, his armurs he him led. When Ywayn was withowten town, Of his palfray lighted he down And dight him right wele in his wede And lepe up on his gude stede.	<i>equipment; [to] him outside off dressed; armor</i>	and brought the steed and the armour. Once Ywain was outside the town, he dismounted from his horse, donned his armor and mounted his steed.
595	Furth he rade onone right, Until it neghed nere the nyght. He passed many high mowntayne In wildernes and mony a playne, Til he come to that lethir sty,	<i>straight away</i>	He rode forth until it neared nightfall, passing many high mountains in the wilderness and many plains until he came to the hazardous path
600	That him byhoved pass by. Than was he seker for to se The wel and the fayre tre. The chapel saw he at the last, And theder hyed he ful fast.	<i>treacherous crossing of necessity [had to] sure</i>	that would lead him to the well and tree. He saw the castle at last and was sheltered there for the night;
605	More curtaysi and more honowre Fand he with tham in that toure, And mare conforth by monyfalde, Than Colgrevice had him of talde. That night was he herberd thare:	<i>hastened</i>	he was treated with more courtesy and honor and found much greater comfort than Colgrevice had reported.
610	So wele was he never are. At morn he went forth by the strete, And with the cheryl sone gan he mete That sold tel to him the way. He sayned him, the soth to say,	<i>lodged before</i>	
615	Twenty sith or ever he blan; Swilk mervayle had he of that man; For he had wonder that nature Myght mak so fowl a creature. Than to the well he rade gude pase,	<i>churl should crossed himself times; ceased</i>	In the morning he went down the road and soon met the gamekeeper who would tell him the way, He crossed himself, truth to tell, at least twenty times, so much did he marvel at the man; it was awonder that nature had made such a foul creature.
620	And doun he lighted in that place; And sone the bacyn has he tane And kest water opon the stane; And sone thare wex withowten fayle, Wind and thonor and rayn and haile.	<i>at a good pace (i.e., rapidly)</i>	Then he rode at a good pace to the well and dismounted, and soon took the basin and cast water on the stone. Without fail came wind, thunder, rain and hail.
625	When it was sesed, than saw he	<i>soon; blew up thunder;</i>	When it ceased, he saw

	The fowles light opon the tre; Thai sang ful fayre opon that thorn, Right als thai had done byfor.	<i>birds</i>	the birds alight upon the tree and sing gaily just as they had done before.
630	And sone he saw cumand a knight Als fast so the fowl in flyght With rude sembland and sterne chere, And hastily he neghed nere. To speke of lufe na time was thare, For aither hated uther ful sare.	<i>as</i> <i>rough looks; fierce manner</i> <i>approached</i>	Soon he saw a knight with a stern expression coming toward him as fast as a bird in flight. They hated each other on sight
635	Togeder smertly gan thai drive, Thaire sheldes sone bigan to ryve, Thaire shaftes cheverd to thaire hand, Bot thai war bath ful wele syttand. Out thai drogh thaire swerdes kene	<i>either; sorely</i> <i>split</i> <i>splintered in</i> <i>[in the saddle]</i>	and began to battle; soon their shields and lances were shattered, but they remained seated. They drew out their swords and hewed each other's shields to pieces,
640	And delt strakes tham bytwene; Al to peces thai hewed thaire sheldes, The culpons flegh out in the feldes. On helmes strake thay so with yre, At ilka strake outbrast the fyre.	<i>pieces flew</i> <i>ire</i>	which flew out into the field. Their helms were struck with such anger that sparks flew.
645	Aither of tham gude buffettes bede, And nowther wald styr of the stede. Ful kenely thai kyd thaire myght And feyned tham noght forto fight. On thaire hauberkes that men myght ken,	<i>either; blows offered</i> <i>budge from</i> <i>bravely; made known</i>	Both gave good blows and none would budge from the place; eagerly they showed their might, and were not slow to fight, so that blood running from their bodies could be seen through their chain mail.
650	The blode out of thaire bodyes ren; Aither on other laid so fast, The batayl might noght lang last. Hauberkes er broken and helmes reven, Stif strakes war thare gyfen;	<i>coats of mail; see;</i> <i>coats of mail are; split</i>	They exchanged such strokes that the fight could not last long, with broken helms and hauberks;
655	Thai faght on hors stifly always; The batel was wele more to prays. Bot at the last Syr Ywayne On his felow kyd his mayne: So egerly he smate him than,	<i>stoutly</i> <i>made known; strength</i> <i>then</i>	neither would dismount, which made the battle praiseworthy. Finally Sir Ywain proved his prowess with a blow that split
660	He clefe the helme and the hernpan. The knyght wist he was nere ded; To fle than was his best rede, And fast he fled with al hys mayne, And fast folowd Syr Ywayne.	<i>skull</i> <i>knew</i> <i>plan</i> <i>strength</i>	his opponent's helm and brainpan. The knight knew he was near death and thought it best to flee, so he rode away with all his strength, followed fast by Sir Ywain,
665	Bot he ne might him overtake, Tharfore grete murning gan he make. He folowd him ful stowtlyk And wald have tane him ded or quik. He folowd him to the ceté;	<i>(Ywain); (the knight)</i> <i>resolutely</i> <i>dead or alive</i> <i>city</i>	but he could not be overtaken, which greatly troubled Sir Ywain. Sir Ywain would have taken him dead or alive; he followed fast to the city where he saw no living man.
670	Na man lyfand met he. When thai come to the kastel gate, In he folowd fast thareate. At aither entré was, iwys, Straytly wrought a portculis	<i>living</i> <i>truly;</i> <i>finely;</i>	When they came to the castle gate, he followed the knight; there were two inner gates, each of which had a portcullis
675	Shod wele with yren and stele And also grunden wonder wele. Under that than was a swyke, That made Syr Ywain to myslike.	<i>steel</i> <i>sharpened</i> <i>treacherous snare</i>	wrought of iron and steel and ground sharply at the tips. As Sir Ywain entered,

680	<p>His hors fote toched thareon Than fel the portculis onone Bytwyx him and his hinder arsown. Thorgh sadel and stede it smate al down, His spores of his heles it schare; Than had Ywayne murnyng mare.</p>	<p><i>iron gate instantly cantle (rear part of saddle)</i></p>	<p>his horse's foot touched a hidden trap and the portcullis dropped as he passed through; it hit just between Sir Ywain and his rear saddlebow, shearing the spurs of his heels and slicing through his saddle and steed.</p>
685	<p>Bot so he wend have passed quite, Than fel the tother bifore als tyte. A faire grace yit fel him swa, Al if it smate his hors in twa And his spors of aither hele,</p>	<p><i>spurs off; heels; cut mourning more as he thought to; free quickly; so</i></p>	<p>But more trouble was to come, as the other portcullis fell shut in front of him and trapped him. Though his horse had been cut in two and he'd lost his spurs, he was lucky to have passed through so well himself!</p>
690	<p>That himself passed so wele. Bytwene tha gates now es he tane; Tharfore he mase ful mukel mane, And mikel murnyng gan he ma, For the knyght was went him fra.</p>	<p><i>from</i></p>	<p>Caught between the two gates, through which the other knight had passed, Sir Ywain moaned and mourned greatly.</p>
695	<p>Als he was stoken in that stall, He herd byhind him in a wall A dore opend faire and wele, And thareout come a damysel. Efter hir the dore sho stak,</p>	<p><i>makes; much moan great; make from trapped (stoked)</i></p>	<p>As he was stuck in that space, he heard a door open in the wall behind him and saw a maiden come out, shutting the door after her.</p>
700	<p>Ful hinde wordes to him sho spak. "Syr," sho said, "by Saint Myghell, Here thou has a febil ostell. Thou mon be ded, es nocht at laine, For my lord that thou has slayne.</p>	<p><i>shut courteous; she Michael poor hostelry shall; certainly</i></p>	<p>She spoke to him graciously: "Sir, by St Michael, this is poor lodging! Your life is in danger, for you have slain my lord.</p>
705	<p>Seker it es that thou him slogh; My lady makes sorow ynogh And al his menyne everilkane. Here has thou famen many ane To be thi bane er thai ful balde.</p>	<p><i>certain; killed</i></p>	<p>My lady and everyone in his company is sorrowful; you have many foes here, set on your destruction.</p>
710	<p>Thou brekes nocht out of this halde. And, for thai wate thai may nocht fayl, Thai wil the sla in playn batayl." He sayd, "Thai ne sal, so God me rede. For al thaire might do me to dede,</p>	<p><i>attendants everyone foes cause your death are; eager</i></p>	<p>You cannot escape from this stronghold, so they know they may not fail to slay you in battle."</p>
715	<p>Ne no handes opon me lay." Sho said, "Na, sertes, if that I may! Al if thou be here straytly stad, Me think thou ert nocht ful adrad. And sir," sho said, "on al wise</p>	<p><i>since they know</i></p>	<p>Sir Ywain said, "So help me God, for all their might they shall not kill me or lay hands upon me."</p>
720	<p>I aw the honore and servyse. I was in message at the king Bifore this time, whils I was ying; I was nocht than savese, Als a damysel aght to be.</p>	<p><i>shall not; counsel slay me</i></p>	<p>She said, "Certainly not, if I can help it. Although you are severely beset here, I don't believe you are all afraid.</p>
725	<p>Fro the tyme that I was lyght In cowrt was none so hend knyght, That unto me than walde take hede, Bot thou allane, God do the mede. Grete honore thou did to me,</p>	<p><i>sore beset</i></p>	<p>And, sir, by all means I owe you honor and service, for once when I was young and more naïve than a damsel should be, I was sent to give a message to the king.</p>
730	<p>And that sal I now quite the. I wate, if thou be seldom sene,</p>	<p><i>owe you on a mission to young [as] discreet</i></p>	<p>From the time I arrived at court, no knight was gracious enough to notice me except you; may God reward you. You did me great honor, and now I will repay you. I know you are Sir Ywain,</p>
		<p><i>alighted courteous</i></p>	
		<p><i>alone; reward you</i></p>	
		<p><i>repay know even though you</i></p>	

	Thou ert the Kyng son Uriene, And thi name es Sir Ywayne. Of me may thou be sertayne.	<i>are the son of King Uriene</i>	son of King Urien.
735	If thou wil my kownsail leve, Thou sal find na man the to greve; I sal lene the here mi ring, Bot yelde it me at myne askyng.	<i>counsel believe</i> <i>lend you</i>	You may trust me and if you take my advice, no man will harm you. I shall lend you my ring, but you must return it at my request; when you are out of distress, give it back to me.
740	When thou ert broght of al thi payn, Yelde it than to me ogayne. Als the bark hilles the tre, Right so sal my ring do the;	<i>protects</i>	As the bark protects the tree, so shall my ring do for you.
	When thou in hand has the stane, Dere sal thai do the nane;	<i>harm</i>	No harm will come to you
745	For the stane es of swilk myght, Of the sal men have na syght." Wit ye wele that Sir Ywayne Of thir wordes was ful fayne.	<i>such</i> <i>know</i> <i>these; joyful</i>	when you hold the stone in your hand, for it has such power that no man will see you." You can be sure that Sir Ywain was well pleased with her words.
	In at the dore sho him led And did him sit opon hir bed.		She led him through the door and had him sit on her bed,
750	A quylt ful nobil lay thareon, Richer saw he never none. Sho said if he wald any thing, He sold be served at his liking.	<i>quilt</i> <i>wanted</i> <i>pleasure</i>	which was covered with a quilt, the richest he had ever seen. She said that should he want anything he would be well served,
755	He said that ete wald he fayn. Sho went and come ful sone ogain; A capon rosted broght sho sone, A clene klath and brede tharone	<i>eat; gladly</i>	and he asked for food. She left and soon returned with roasted capon, bread on a clean cloth,
	And a pot with riche wine And a pece to fil it yne.	<i>cloth; bread</i> <i>cup; in</i>	and a pot of rich wine with a cup to pour it in. He ate with good cheer, for he had been very hungry.
760	He ete and drank with ful gude chere, For tharof had he grete mystere. When he had eten and dronken wele, Grete noyse he herd in the kastele.	<i>need</i>	After his meal, he heard a loud noise in the castle;
765	Thai soght overal him to have slayn, To venge thaire lorde war thai ful bayn Or that the cors in erth was layd. The damysel sone to him sayd,	<i>everywhere</i> <i>eager</i> <i>ere; corpse</i>	they looked everywhere to slay him in revenge, even before the corpse had been buried. The maiden told him,
	"Now seke thai the fast forto sla, Bot whosoever com or ga, Be thou never the more adred, Ne styr thou noght out of this stede;	<i>afraid</i> <i>nor move; place</i> <i>[place]</i>	"They are now seeking to slay you, but whoever comes or goes, have no fear or move from this place. They will look for you in here, but stay still on this bed and pay them no heed.
770	In this here seke thai wyll, Bot on this bed luke thou be styll, Of tham al mak thou na force. Bot when that thai sal bere the cors		
775	Unto the kyrk for to bery, Than sal thou here a sary cry; So sal thai mak a doleful dyn. Than wil thay seke the eft herein;	<i>body</i> <i>church; bury</i> <i>hear; grievous</i>	But when they bear the body to the church for burial, you will hear a sorry cry and a doleful din, and they will seek you here again.
780	Bot loke thou be of hert lyght, For of the sal thai have no syght. Here sal thou be, mawgré thaire berd, And tharfore be thou noght aferd.	<i>seek you afterwards</i> <i>despite their best efforts</i>	But don't worry, they will not find you no matter how hard they look;

785	Thi famen sal be als the blynd, Both byfor the and byhind, On ilka side sal thou be soght. Now most I ga, bot drede the noght, For I sal do that the es lefe,	<i>foes</i>	they will be as the blind, unable to see you.
790	If al it turn me to mischeffe." When sho come unto the gate, Ful many men fand sho tharate Wele armed, and wald ful fayn Have taken and slane Sir Ywaine.	<i>every</i> <i>go</i> <i>what is agreeable [to] you</i> <i>even if</i>	I must go now, but don't be afraid, for I will help you even if it brings me trouble." When she came to the gate she found many well-armed men eager to take and slay Sir Ywain.
795	Half his stede thare fand thai That within the gates lay; Bot the knight thare fand thai noght: Than was thare mekil sorow unsoght.	<i>horse</i>	They found half his steed between the gates but not the knight.
800	Dore ne window was thare nane, Whare he myght oway gane. Thai said he sold thare be laft, Or els he cowth of wechecraft, Or he cowth of nygromancy, Or he had wenges forto fly.	<i>unrelieved</i>	There was no door or window through which he might have gone, so he should still have been there. Otherwise he knew witchcraft or necromancy, or had wings with which to fly.
805	Hastily than went thai all And soght him in the maydens hall, In chambers high (es noght at hide), And in solers on ilka side.	<i>knew</i> <i>knew</i>	They hastily went to the maiden's hall and searched all the rooms,
810	Sir Ywaine saw ful wele al that, And still opon the bed he sat. There was nane that anes mynt Unto the bed at smyte a dynt; Al about thai smate so fast, That mani of thaire wapins brast.	<i>to</i> <i>upper rooms; each</i>	which Sir Ywain watched as he sat on the bed. They struck all about except the bed, with blows so hard that many of their weapons broke.
815	Mekyl sorow thai made ilkane, For thai ne myght wreke thaire lord bane. Thai went oway with dreri chere, And sone thare efter come the bere.	<i>who once made a movement</i> <i>toward; to</i>	Greatly disappointed that they could not avenge their lord, they left with dreary faces and went to the bier.
820	A lady folowd white so mylk, In al that land was none swilk; Sho wrang hir fingers, outbrast the blode. For mekyl wa sho was nere wode. Hir fayre hare scho al todrogh, And ful oft fel sho down in swogh;	<i>broke</i> <i>each one</i> <i>avenge; lord's death</i>	A lady, white as milk followed, nearly mad with woe. She wrung her hands until they bled – she was nearly mad with sorrow - pulled out her fair hair, wept, and often fell down in a swoon.
825	Sho wepe with a ful dreri voice. The hali water and the Croyce Was born bifore the procession; Thare folowd mani a moder son; Bifore the cors rade a knyght	<i>bier</i> <i>as</i> <i>such</i> <i>out burst</i> <i>gone mad</i> <i>hair; pulled out</i> <i>in a swoon</i>	The holy water and cross were borne before the procession, followed by many a mother's son. Before the body rode a knight on a strong steed, well armoured; his spear and shield were well arrayed.
830	On his stede that was ful wight, In his armurs wele arayd, With spere and target gudely grayd. Than Sir Ywayn herd the cry And the dole of that fayre lady;	<i>Cross</i> <i>were</i>	Sir Ywain heard the lady's cry, for no one might have more sorrow than she when her lord went to his grave.
835	For more sorow myght nane have, Than sho had when he went to grave. Prestes and monkes on thaire wyse	<i>corpse rode</i> <i>(the dead knight's) steed; strong</i> <i>(the dead knight's) armor</i> <i>shield; equipped</i> <i>sorrow</i>	Priests and monks solemnly
		<i>in every way</i>	

	Ful solempnly did the servyse.		performed the service.
	Als Lunet thare stode in the thrang,	<i>also</i>	As Lunet stood in the crowd,
840	Until Sir Ywayne thocht hir lang.	<i>long away</i>	she thought of Sir Ywain
	Out of the thrang the wai sho tase,	<i>takes</i>	and went to him quickly.
	Unto Sir Ywayne fast sho gase.	<i>goes</i>	
nbsp;	Sho said, "Sir, how ertow stad?	<i>how are you doing?</i>	She asked how he was
	I hope ful wele thou has bene rad."	<i>expect; frightened</i>	and expected that he had been afraid,
845	"Sertes," he said, "thou sais wele thare;		and he told her
	So abayst was I never are."	<i>upset; before</i>	he had never been so abashed.
	He said, "Leman, I pray the,	<i>sweetheart</i>	He said, "My friend,
	If it any wise may be,		is there some way
	That I might luke a litel throw	<i>look; while</i>	that I might briefly look out
850	Out at sum hole or sum window,		some hole or window,
	For wonder fayn," he sayd, "wald I	<i>would</i>	for I have a great desire
	Have a sight of the lady."		to see the lady,"
	The maiden than ful sone unshet	<i>then; opened up</i>	and she opened a secret gate
	In a place a prevé weket.	<i>secret window</i>	from which he could watch.
855	Thare of the lady he had a syght.		He saw the lady Alundyne and heard
	Lowd sho cried to God almyght,		her loud cries to God almighty:
	"Of his sins do hym pardowne,		"Pardon him for his sins,
	For sertainly in no regyowne	<i>region</i>	for there was never,
	Was never knight of his bewté,		nor will there be,
860	Ne efter him sal never nane be;		such a fine knight;
	In al the werld fro end to ende		there is no one so courteous
	Es none so curtayse ne so hende.	<i>gracious</i>	or gracious in all the world.
	God grant the grace thou mai won	<i>dwel</i>	God grant him grace to live
	In hevyn with His owyn son;		in heaven with His own Son,
865	For so large lifes none in lede	<i>generous; on earth</i>	for there is no one alive
	Ne none so doghty of gude dede."	<i>worthy</i>	so generous or doughty of deeds."
	When sho had thus made hir spell,	<i>speech</i>	When she had made her speech,
	In swownyng ful oft sithes sho fell.	<i>times</i>	she swooned many times.
	Now lat we the lady be,		Now we will leave the lady
870	And of Sir Ywayne speke we.		and speak of Sir Ywain.
	Luf, that es so mekil of mayne,	<i>mighty of power</i>	Love, that is so powerful,
	Sare had wowednded Sir Ywayne,	<i>Sore</i>	had sorely wounded him.
	That whareso he sal ride or ga,	<i>foe</i>	Wherever he went,
	His hert sho has that es his fa.		she who was his foe
875	His hert he has set al bydene,	<i>altogether</i>	had his heart, which was set
	Whare himself dar nocht be sene.	<i>dare</i>	where he dare not be seen.
	Bot thus in langing bides he	<i>longing</i>	But he lived in longing
	And hopes that it sal better be.		and hoped for better.
	Al that war at the enterement,	<i>burial</i>	Everyone at the interment
880	Toke thaire leve at the lady gent,	<i>of; gracious</i>	took leave of the gentle lady
	And hame now er thai halely gane;	<i>wholly</i>	went home
	And the lady left allane		and left her alone
	Dweland with hir chamberere	<i>lady-in-waiting</i>	with her lady-in-waiting
	And other mo that war hir dere.	<i>were close to her</i>	and some others who were dear to her.
885	Than bigan hir noyes al new,	<i>weeping</i>	Pale from sorrow,
	For sorow failed hir hide and hew.	<i>permeated; skin</i>	she began her mourning anew;
	Unto his sawl was sho ful hulde;	<i>loyal</i>	concentrating on his soul,
	Opon a sawter al of gulde	<i>psalter; gold</i>	she opened a gold psalter
	To say the salmes fast sho bigan	<i>psalms</i>	and started to read the psalms
890	And toke no tent unto no man.	<i>heed of any</i>	and paid no attention to any man.

	Than had Sir Ywain mekyl drede, For he hoped nocht to spede; He said, "I am mekil to blame, That I luf tham that wald me shame.		Sir Ywain then feared he could not succeed He said, "I am much to blame for loving one who would shame me.
895	Bot yit I wite hir al with wogh, Sen that I hir lord slogh. I can nocht se by nakyn gyn, How that I hir luf sold wyn.	<i>he did not expect success</i> <i>blame; wrongfully</i> <i>since</i> <i>any scheme</i>	Yet I blame her unjustly, since I have slain the lady's lord. I can think of no way to win her love.
900	That lady es ful gent and small, Hir yghen clere als es cristall; Sertes thare es no man olive, That kowth hir bewtese wele describe."	<i>gracious</i> <i>eyes</i> <i>alive</i> <i>could; beauty</i> <i>situated; time</i>	The lady is all lovely, with eyes as clear as crystal; no man alive could describe her beauty.
	Thus was Syr Ywayne sted that sesowne; He wrought ful mekyl ogayns resowne		
905	To set his luf in swilk a stede, Whare thai hated him to the dede. He sayd he sold have hir to wive, Or els he sold lose his lyve.	<i>place</i> <i>death</i>	For Sir Ywain to set his love in a place where he was hated to the death was against reason, but he said if he could not have her as his wife, he would rather lose his life.
	Thus als he in stody sat,	<i>reverie</i>	As he sat in thought,
910	The mayden come to him with that. Sho sayd, "How hasto farn this day, Sen that I went fro the oway?"	<i>have you fared</i>	the maiden came and asked how he had been since she last left him.
	Sone sho saw him pale and wan, Sho wist wele what him ayled than.	<i>ailed him then</i>	She could see from his pale, wan appearance what ailed him and said, "I know that your heart is set, and certainly I will do all I can to help you out of prison and bring you to your reward."
915	Sho said, "I wote thi hert es set, And sertes I ne sal nocht it let; Bot I sal help the fra presowne And bring the to thi warisowne."	<i>allow</i> <i>from prison</i> <i>reward</i>	"Damsel," replied Sir Ywain, "I will not steal out of this place but will leave openly in daylight in men's sight; Regardless of what happens to me, I will go from here manly."
	He said, "Sertes, damysele, Out of this place wil I nocht stele; Bot I wil wende by dayes lyght, That men may of me have sight Opinly on ilka syde. Worth of me what so bityde,	<i>become</i> <i>nobly; hence depart</i>	
925	Manly wil I hethin wende." Than answerd tha mayden hende, "Sir, thow sal wend with honowre, For thou sal have ful gude socowre.	<i>assistance</i>	She assured him, "Sir, you will go with honor, for you shall have good succor. But you will be safe here awhile until I return."
	Bot, sir, thou sal be here sertayne A while unto I cum ogayne."		She was aware of his intentions and went right to her lady,
930	Sho kend al trewly his entent, And tharfore es sho wightly went Unto the lady faire and bright, For unto hir right wele sho myght	<i>knew</i> <i>busily gone</i>	to whom she was confidante, attendant and counselor and could speak freely, as you will hear.
935	Say whatsom hyr willes es. For sho was al hir maystres, Her keper, and hir cownsaylere. To hir sho said, als ye sal here, Bytwix tham twa in gude cownsayl,	<i>whatsoever</i> <i>(Lunette); (A's) governess</i> <i>manager of her affairs</i>	
940	"Madame," sho sayd, "I have mervayl That ye sorow thus ever on ane. For Goddes luf, lat be yowre mane. Ye sold think over alkyn thyng	<i>so persistently (all the time)</i> <i>grief</i> <i>every</i>	She said, "Madam, I am amazed at your constant sorrow. For God's sake, let go of your mourning and think about another thing:

<p>945 Of the Kinges Arthurgh cumyng. Menes yow noght of the message Of the Damysel Savage, That in hir lettre to yow send? Allas, who sal yow now defend Yowre land and al that es thareyn, 950 Sen ye wil never of wepeing blyn? A, madame, takes tent to me. Ye ne have na knyght in this cuntré, That durst right now his body bede Forto do a doghty dede, 955 Ne forto bide the mekil boste Of King Arthurgh and of his oste; And if he find none hym ogayn, Yowre landes er lorn, this es sertayn." The lady understode ful wele, 960 How sho hyr cownsaild ilka dele; Sho bad hyr go hir way smertly, And that sho war na more hardy Swilk wordes to hyr at speke; For wa hir hert wold al tobreke. 965 Sho bad, "Go wightly hethin oway." Than the maiden thus gan say, "Madame, it es oft wemens will Tham forto blame that sais tham scill." Sho went oway, als sho noght roght, 970 And than the lady hyr bythoght, That the maiden said no wrang, And so sho sat in stody lang. In stody thus allane sho sat; The mayden come ogayn with that. 975 "Madame," sho said, "ye er a barn; Thus may ye sone yowre self forfarn." Sho sayd, "Chastise thi hert, madame; To swilk a lady it es grete shame Thus to wepe and make slike cry; 980 Think opon thi grete gentri. Trowes thou the flowre of chevalry Sold al with thi lord dy And with him be put in molde? God forbede that it so solde! 985 Als gude als he and better bene." "Thou lyes," sho sayd, "by hevyn-quene! Lat se if thoue me tel kan, Whar es any so doghty man, Als he was that wedded me." 990 "Yis, and ye kun me na mawgré, And that ye mak me sekernes, That ye sal luf me never the les." Sho said, "Thou may be ful sertayn, That for na thing that thou mai sayn, 995 Wil I me wreth on nane manere." "Madame," sho said, "than sal ye here;</p>	<p><i>King Arthur's don't you recall</i></p> <p><i>stop pay attention</i></p> <p><i>offer</i></p> <p><i>lost</i></p> <p><i>every part</i></p> <p><i>bold to woe; break into pieces swiftly hence</i></p> <p><i>reasons with them as if she didn't care</i></p> <p><i>wrong</i></p> <p><i>child destroy (Lunette)</i></p> <p><i>such gentility believe</i></p> <p><i>earth should be</i></p> <p><i>if you will bear me no spite; give me reassurance</i></p> <p><i>grow angry</i></p>	<p>King Arthur's coming. Don't you remember the letter Damsel Savage sent you?</p> <p>Who will now defend you, your land, and all else, since you won't stop weeping?</p> <p>You have no knight in the country who will dare to offer himself to do a brave deed nor face the great menace of King Arthur and his host, and if he is not opposed, your lands will certainly be lost." The lady fully understood the maiden's counsel, but she sent her away and told her not to speak to her in this way, as her heart was breaking with woe. The maiden left unperturbed and told the lady, "It is often women's will to blame those who speak sense."</p> <p>Then the lady reflected that the maiden had not spoken wrongly, and she sat long in thought.</p> <p>The maiden returned and continued: "Madam, you are acting like a child and will soon destroy yourself. Chastise your heart, for it is a great shame for such a lady to weep and make such cries. Remember your great nobility. Do you believe that the flower of chivalry died and was buried with your lord? God forbid! There are others as good and better." "By heaven, you lie!" said the lady. "Let's see if you can tell me where there is a man as doughty as my husband." "Yes, if you assure me that you will love me no less."</p> <p>The lady promised that she would not become angry at anything the maiden said, so Lunet proceeded:</p>
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	I sal yow tel a preveté, And na ma sal it wit bot we. Yf twa knyghtes be in the felde	<i>secret</i> <i>more; know except the two of us</i> <i>two</i>	“Then I shall tell you a secret, which only we two will know. If two knights are on the field with spear and shield
1000	On twa stedes with spere and shelde And the tane the tother may sla, Whether es the better of tha?" Sho said, "He that has the bataile." "Ya," said the mayden, "sawnfayle,	<i>one; other; slay</i> <i>those</i> <i>won</i> <i>without fail</i> <i>powerful</i>	and one slays the other, which is the better?" The lady said, "He who wins the battle." “Certainly,” continued the maiden. “The knight that lives is mightier than your lord, who was slain. Your lord fled,
1005	The knyght that lifes es mare of maine Than yowre lord that was slayne. Yowre lord fled out of the place, And the tother gan hym chace Heder into his awyn halde;	<i>the other</i> <i>hither; own fortress</i> <i>know; brave</i>	and the other chased him here into his own stronghold, which tells of his boldness.” The lady said, “Talking of him to me is an insult. You speak neither truth nor right. Quickly, out of my sight!”
1010	Thare may ye wit, he was ful balde." The lady said, "This es grete scorne, That thou neyvyns him me biforne; Thou sais nowther soth ne right. Swith, out of myne eghen syght!"	<i>speaks of; before me</i> <i>truth</i> <i>instantly get out; eye</i> <i>as I hope to prosper</i> <i>promised</i> <i>abuse</i>	“Speaking to me in this way is not what you promised,” said the maiden as she left and hastily returned to Sir Ywain’s chamber.
1015	The mayden said, "So mot I the, Thus ne hight ye nocht me, That ye sold so me myssay," With that sho turned hir oway, And hastily sho went ogayn	<i>(Lunette)</i>	
1020	Unto the chameber to Sir Ywayne. The lady thocht than al the nyght, How that sho had na knyght Forto seke hir land thorghout To kepe Arthurgh and hys rowt.	<i>(Alundyne)</i> <i>defend</i> <i>defend against; army</i>	The lady thought all night about having no knight to repel Arthur and his company, and began to feel ashamed:
1025	Than bigan hir forto shame And hirsself fast forto blame. Unto hirsself fast gan sho flyte And said, "With wrang now I hir wite. Now hopes sho I wil never mare	<i>reproach</i> <i>(Lunette) blame</i> <i>thinks</i> <i>love</i> <i>strength of mind and will</i>	“I blame Lunet wrongly, and now she believes I will never love her again as I always have. I will love her strongly, for what she told me was for my own good.” The maiden came back the next morning and found the lady drearly hanging her head.
1030	Luf hir als I have done are. I wil hir luf with main and mode; For that sho said was for my gode." On the morn the mayden rase, And unto chamber sone sho gase.	<i>arose</i>	
1035	Thare sho fyndes the faire lady Hingand hir hevyd ful drerily In the place whare sho hir left; And ilka dele sho talde hir eft, Als sho had said to hir bifore.	<i>hanging; head</i> <i>every bit; then</i>	Lunet repeated all she said before,
1040	Than said the lady, "Me rewes sore, That I missayd the yisterday. I wil amend, if that I may. Of that knyght now wald I here, What he war and whethen he were.	<i>I sorely regret</i> <i>spoke gruffly to you</i> <i>would; hear</i> <i>whence</i>	and the lady apologized for having mistreated her and wished to make amends: “I would now like to hear about that knight.
1045	I wate that I have sayd omys; Now wil I do als thou me wys. Tel me baldely, or thou blin, If he be cumen of gentil kyn." "Madame," sho said, "I dar warand,	<i>know; amiss</i> <i>direct</i> <i>fearlessly; cease</i> <i>dare guarantee</i>	I know I was wrong and will now do as you advise. Tell me, is he of noble kin?” “Madam,” said Lunet, “I dare say

1050	A genteler lord es none lifand; The hendest man ye sal him fynde, That ever come of Adams kynde." "How hat he? Sai me for sertayne." "Madame," sho said, "Sir Ywayne;	<i>living</i> <i>most gracious</i> <i>what is his name</i>	that there is no more noble man alive. You will find him the most gracious man ever born." The lady asked his name, and the maiden told her
1055	So gentil knight have ye noght sene; He es the King son Uryene." Sho held hir paid of that tithyng, For that his fader was a kyng;	<i>pleased; news</i>	he was Sir Ywain, King Urien's son, which pleased the lady. She told Lunet,
1060	"Do me have him here in my sight Bitwene this and the thrid night And are, if that it are myght be. Me langes sare him forto se; Bring him, if thou mai, this night."	<i>bring him here</i> <i>sooner; sooner</i> <i>longs sorely</i>	"Have him here in my sight by the third night from now or sooner, if possible. I sorely long to see him; bring him tonight, if you can."
1065	"Madame," sho sayd, "that I ne might, For his wonyng es hethin oway More than the jorné of a day. Bot I have a wele rinand page, Wil stirt thider right in a stage And bring him by to-morn at nyght."	<i>dwelling; hence</i> <i>fast-running</i> <i>pretty quick</i> <i>tomorrow</i>	The maiden replied, "I cannot, for his home is more than a day's journey away. But I have a speedy page who will run directly there and bring him by tomorrow night."
1070	The lady saide, "Loke yf he myght To-morn by evyn be here ogayn." Sho said, "Madame, with al his mayn." "Bid him hy on alkyn wyse. He sal be quit wele his servyse;	<i>hasten in every way</i> <i>repaid</i> <i>reward</i>	The lady said, "Look if he might be here by tomorrow night." "Madam, he will do his best." "Tell him to hurry as fast as he can; he will be well rewarded with advancement for his service if he does this errand quickly."
1075	Avancement sal be hys bone, If he wil do this erand sone." "Madame," sho said, "I dar yow hight To have him here or the thrid nyght. Towhils, efter yowre kownsayl send And ask tham wha sal yow defend Yowre well, yowre land, kastel, and towre Ogayns the nobil King Arthure. For thare es nane of tham ilkane, That dar the batel undertane.	<i>promise</i> <i>before</i> <i>meanwhile</i> <i>each one</i> <i>undertake</i>	"Madam," said Lunet, "I promise to have him here before the third night. In the meantime, send for your council and ask them how you shall defend your well, land, castle and tower against the noble King Arthur, for there is not one of them who will dare to undertake the battle. Tell them it is necessary for you to take a lord to do what they will not. You need a noble knight who will defend your right. But swear that you will not act without their approval, which will please them and they will thank you many times."
1080	Than sal ye say, "Nedes bus me take A lorde to do that ye forsake." Nedes bus yow have sum nobil knyght, That wil and may defend yowre right; And sais also, to suffer ded Ye wil noght do out of thaire rede. Of that worde sal thai be blyth And thank yow ful many sithe."	<i>it is necessary that</i> <i>it is necessary that</i> <i>say; death</i> <i>counsel</i> <i>times</i>	The lady said, "By God Almighty I shall consult with them tonight. I think you linger here too long; quickly send forth your messenger." She was well pleased and did as her maiden directed, sending for her council immediately.
1085	The lady said, "By God of myght, I sal areson tham this night. Me think thou dwelles ful lang here; Send forth swith the messangere." Than was the lady blith and glad. Sho did al als hir mayden bad. Efter hir cownsail sho sent onane. And bad thai sold cum sone ilkane. The maiden redies hyr ful rath. Bilive sho gert Syr Ywayne bath	<i>question</i> <i>at once</i> <i>quickly</i> <i>quickly she drew; bath</i>	Lunet started preparations quickly. She had Sir Ywain bathed and dressed
1090	1095	1100	

<p>And cled him sethin in gude scarlet Forord wele and with gold fret, 1105 A girdel ful riche for the nanes Of perry and of preciows stanes. Sho talde him al how he sold do, When that he come the lady to. And thus when he was al reddy, 1110 Sho went and talde to hyr lady, That cumen was hir messagere. Sho said smertly, "Do lat me here, Cumes he sone, als have thou wyn?" "Medame," sho said, "I sal nocht blin, 1115 Or that he be byfor yow here." Than said the lady with light chere, "Go bring him heder prevely, That none wit bot thou and I." Than the maiden went ogayn 1120 Hastily to Sir Ywayn. "Sir," sho said, "als have I wyn, My lady wate thou ert hereyn. To cum bifore hir luke thou be balde, And tak gode tent what I have talde." 1125 By the hand sho toke the knyght And led him unto chamber right Byfor hir lady (es nocht at layne), And of that come was sho ful fayne. Bot yit Sir Ywayne had grete drede, 1130 When he unto chamber yede. The chamber flore and als the bed With klothes of gold was al overspred. Hir thocht he was withowten lac, Bot no word to him sho spak. 1135 And he for dred oway he drogh. Than the mayden stode and logh. Sho said, "Mawgré have that knyght That haves of swilk a lady syght And can nocht shew to hir his nede. 1140 Cum furth, sir; the thar nocht drede, That mi lady wil the smyte; Sho loves the wele withouten lite. Pray to hir of hir mercy, And for thi sake right so sal I, 1145 That sho forgif the in this stede Of Salados the Rouse ded, That was hir lord, that thou has slayne." On knese him set than Syr Ywaine. "Madame, I yelde me yow untill 1150 Ever to be at yowre wyll; Yf that I might, I ne wald nocht fle." Sho said, "Nay, whi sold so be? To ded yf I gert do the now, To me it war ful litel prow. 1155 Bot for I find the so bowsum,</p>	<p><i>clothed; afterwards trimmed with fur; fastened occasion jewelry; [other]</i></p> <p><i>as you hope to have joy cease</i></p> <p><i>hither secretly knows</i></p> <p><i>joy knows fearless pay close attention</i></p> <p><i>(it can't be hidden) arrival; joyful</i></p> <p><i>went</i></p> <p><i>it seemed to her he was without fault</i></p> <p><i>drew laughed ill luck befall such</i></p> <p><i>you need not</i></p> <p><i>fault</i></p> <p><i>situation Salados the Rouse's death</i></p> <p><i>death; caused to advantage gracious</i></p>	<p>in fine, furred scarlet decorated with gold wire, and a rich girdle of precious stones, and gave him instructions for his meeting with the lady. When he was ready, the maiden told her lady that the messenger had arrived. The lady said, "Tell me truly, will he be here soon?" "Madam, I will not rest ere he's here before you." The lady asked the maiden to bring the knight to her privately so no one else would know. Lunet rushed to Sir Ywain and told him, "Sir, my lady knows you are here. Be bold to come before her and take heed of what I have told you." She took him by the hand and led him into the chamber before the lady, who was well pleased with his arrival. But Sir Ywain was afraid when he entered the room, the floor and bed of which were covered with gold cloths. She found him flawless but did not speak, and he drew away in dread. The maiden laughed and said, "A knight who has such a lady in sight and cannot express himself earns displeasure. Come forth, sir, my lady will not smite you! Truly, she loves you well. Pray to her for mercy (and so shall I for your sake) and forgiveness for slaying Salados the Red, who was her lord." Sir Ywain knelt before the lady: "Madam, I yield myself ever to your will; I will not flee." The lady said, "No, why should you? It would do me little good to kill you now. Since you have come to me willingly</p>
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	That thou wald thus to me cum, And for thou dose the in my grace, I forgif the thi trispase. Syt down," sho said, "and lat me here,		
1160	Why thou ert thus debonere." "Madame," he said, "anis with a luke, Al my hert with the thou toke. Sen I first of the had syght, Have I the lufed with al my might.	<i>since you place yourself</i> <i>meek</i> <i>once; look</i>	and asked for mercy, I forgive you. Sit down and tell me why you are being submissive." "Madam," he said, "at one glance my heart belonged to you. Since I first saw you, I have loved you with all my might, and I will never love anyone else.
1165	To mo than the, mi lady hende, Sal never more my luf wende. For thi luf ever I am redy Lely forto lif or dy." Sho said, "Dar thou wele undertake	<i>more; gracious</i> <i>loyally</i>	For your love I am ready to live or die." "Do you dare to undertake making peace in my land and maintaining my rights against King Arthur and his knights?" "I will, against any man alive."
1170	In my land pese forto make And forto maintene al mi rightes Ogayns King Arthure and his knyghtes?" He said, "That dar I undertane Ogaynes ilka lyfand man."		
1175	Swilk kownsail byfore had sho tane. Sho said, "Sir, than er we at ane." Hir barons hir ful rathly red To tak a lord hir forto wed.	<i>such; taken</i> <i>are</i> <i>quickly advised</i>	"Sir, then we are at one." She had already taken counsel with her barons, who advised she should take a husband. So she hastily went to the hall where they all gathered to hold their parliament and assent to her marriage. She said, "Sirs, with one accord, since we need a lord to lead and guard my lands, give me your judgment soon." "Madam," they said, "we all shall assent to your will." She returned to Sir Ywain and told him, "Sir, by God I will have no other lord. It would not be right to reject a king's son and noble knight." Thus the maiden had accomplished to bring Sir Ywain out of danger. The lady led Sir Ywain into the hall, and all the barons rose and said with conviction, "This knight shall wed the lady." They said to each other that Sir Ywain was the fairest man they had seen and was fit to be an emperour, and that the wedding should take place that night. The lady sat at the dais and commanded silence
1180	Than hastily sho went to hall; Thare abade hir barons all Forto hald thaire parlement And mari hir by thaire asent. Sho sayd, "Sirs, with an acorde, Sen me bus nedely have a lord	<i>marry</i> <i>since I needs must</i>	
1185	My landes forto lede and yeme, Sais me sone howe ye wil deme." "Madame," thai said, "how so ye will, Al we sal assent thartyll." Than the lady went ogayne Unto chameber to Sir Ywaine.	<i>oversee</i> <i>tell; judge</i> <i>thereto</i>	
1190	"Sir," sho said, "so God me save, Other lorde wil I nane have. If I the left, I did nocht right, A king son and a noble knyght." Now has the maiden done hir thought: Sir Ywayne out of anger broght. The lady led him unto hall; Ogains him rase the barons all. And al thai said ful sekerly:	<i>accomplished her intention</i> <i>before him arose</i>	
1195	"This knight sal wed the lady." And ilkane said thamsel bitwene (So faire a man had thai nocht sene), "For his bewté in hal and bowre Him semes to be an emperowre.	<i>each one</i>	
1200	We wald that thai war trowth-plaint And weded sone this ilk nyght." The lady set hir on the dese And cumand al to hald thaire pese,	<i>wish; engaged</i> <i>wedded immediately; very</i> <i>all came to her</i>	
1205			

<p>1210 And bad hir steward sumwhat say, Or men went fra cowrt oway. The steward said, "Sirs, understandes, Were es waxen in thir landes: The king Arthure es redy dight To be here byn this fowretenyght. 1215 He and his menyne ha thocht To win this land if thai moght. Thai wate ful wele that he es ded, That was lord here in this stede. None es so wight wapins to welde 1220 Ne that so boldly mai us belde. And wemen may maintene no stowre - Thai most nedes have a governowre. Tharfor mi lady most nede Be weded hastily for drede; 1225 And to na lord wil sho tak tent, Bot if it be by yowre assent." Than the lordes al on raw Held tham wele payd of this saw; Al assented hyr untill 1230 To tak a lord at hyr owyn wyll. Than said the lady onone right, "How hald ye yow paid of this knight? He profers hym on al wyse To myne honore and my servyse. 1235 And sertes, sirs, the soth to say, I saw him never or this day; Bot talde unto me has it bene, He es the kyng son Uriene. He es cumen of hegh parage 1240 And wonder doghty of vasselage. War and wise and ful curtayse, He yernes me to wife alwayse. And nere the lese, I wate, he might Have wele better, and so war right." 1245 With a voice halely thai sayd, "Madame, ful wele we hald us payd. Bot hastes fast, al that ye may, That ye war wedded this ilk day." And grete prayer gan thai make 1250 On al wise, that sho suld hym take. Sone unto the kirk thai went And war wedded in thaire present. Thare wedded Ywaine in plevyne The riche lady Alundyne, 1255 The dukes doghter of Landuit; Els had hyr lande bene destruyt. Thus thai made the maryage Omang al the riche barnage. Thai made ful mekyl mirth that day, 1260 Ful grete festes on gude aray. Grete mirthes made thai in that stede,</p>	<p><i>before; court</i></p> <p><i>danger increases is already prepared within; fortnight followers have are able know</i></p> <p><i>courageous protect women; withstand no battle</i></p> <p><i>take heed</i></p> <p><i>in turn contented; speech to</i></p> <p><i>(i.e., are you contented with)</i></p> <p><i>before</i></p> <p><i>high lineage bold in knightly deeds</i></p> <p><i>know</i></p> <p><i>sweetly contented</i></p> <p><i>presence pledge</i></p> <p><i>nobility</i></p>	<p>so that her steward could speak before they left. "Sirs," said the steward, "war is growing in these lands; King Arthur is ready to be here within a fortnight with his company to win this country if they can. They know that our lord is dead and that we have no one to protect our lands.</p> <p>Since women may not battle, there must be a governor. Therefore my lady needs to be wedded quickly, and she will take no lord without your approval." The lords were pleased with this speech and assented to the lady's taking a lord at her will. The lady then addressed them regarding Sir Ywain: "How does this knight please you? He has proffered himself to my honor and service in all ways. To tell the truth I've never seen him before today, but I have been told he is the son of King Urien. He comes of high rank and is doughty, wary, wise and courteous. He yearns to marry me, although he might rightfully have better." With one voice the barons approved of Sir Ywain, but urged her to wed that day.</p> <p>So they went to the church, and Ywain married the rich lady Alundyne, the daughter of the Duke of Landuit, in the barons' presence. Otherwise her lands would have been destroyed. The rich baronage made much mirth that day, with feasts befitting the occasion.</p>
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<p>And al forgetyn es now the ded Of him that was thaire lord fre. Thai say that this es worth swilk thre, 1265 And that thai lufed him mekil more Than him that lord was thare byfore. The bridal sat, for soth to tell, Til Kyng Arthure come to the well With al his knyghtes everilkane; 1270 Byhind leved thare nocht ane. Than sayd Sir Kay, "Now, whare es he That made slike bost here forto be For to venge his cosyn germayne? I wist his wordes war al in vayne. 1275 He made grete boste bifer the quene, And here now dar he nocht be sene. His proud wordes er now al purst, For, in fayth, ful ill he durst Anes luke opon that knyght 1280 That he made bost with to fyght." Than sayd Gawayn hastily: "Syr, for Goddes luf, mercy! For I dar hete the for sertayne, That we sal here of Sir Ywayne 1285 This ilk day, that be thou balde, Bot he be ded or done in halde; And never in no cumpany Herd I him speke the velany." Than sayd Sir Kay, "Lo, at thi will 1290 Fra this time forth I sal be still." The king kest water on the stane; The storme rase ful sone onane With wikked weders, kene and calde, Als it was byforehand talde. 1295 The king and his men ilkane Wend tharwith to have bene slane, So blew it store with slete and rayn; And hastily than Syr Ywayne Dight him graythly in his gere 1300 With nobil shelde and strong spere. When he was dight in seker wede, Than he umstrade a nobil stede. Him thocht that he was als lyght Als a fowl es to the flyght. 1305 Unto the well fast wendes he, And sone, when thai myght him se, Syr Kay (for he wald nocht fayle) Smertly askes the batayl. And alsone than said the kyng, 1310 "Sir Kay, I grante the thine askyng." Than Sir Ywayn neghed tham nere Thaire cowntenance to se and here. Sir Kay than on his stede gan spring; "Bere the wele now," sayd the kyng.</p>	<p><i>death</i> <i>gracious</i> <i>this [lord] (i.e., Ywain)</i></p> <p><i>wedding festivities lasted</i></p> <p><i>everyone</i></p> <p><i>such</i> <i>kinsman</i></p> <p><i>shut up</i></p> <p><i>once look</i></p> <p><i>promise</i> <i>hear</i> <i>same; assured</i> <i>unless; put in confinement</i></p> <p><i>of you</i></p> <p><i>at once</i></p> <p><i>thought</i> <i>violently</i></p> <p><i>prepared himself readily</i></p> <p><i>safe armor</i> <i>mounted</i></p> <p><i>arrogantly requests</i> <i>instantly</i></p> <p><i>approached</i></p>	<p>The death of their lord who had been so gracious was forgotten, and the new lord was proclaimed worth three of the former and loved much more. The wedding celebration continued until King Arthur came to the well with all of his knights; no one stayed behind. Sir Kay said, "Where is he who boasted he would avenge his cousin? I knew his words were in vain. He bragged before the queen; now he is nowhere to be seen. So much for his proud words; he doesn't dare face the knight he boasted he would fight." "Mercy, sir, for God's sake!" said Gawain. "You can be sure we will hear of Sir Ywain today, unless he is dead or being held. And I've never in any company heard him speak ill of you." Sir Kay agreed to keep silent.</p> <p>The king cast water on the stone, and the storm soon arose with wicked weather as was told before. It blew so hard with sleet and rain that the king and his men expected to be slain. Sir Ywain hastily dressed himself in his gear with a noble shield and strong spear. When he was well armored he mounted a steed he thought was as light as a bird in flight. He rapidly went to the well and when they saw him, Sir Kay immediately asked for the battle, which Arthur granted.</p> <p>Sir Ywain approached them and Sir Kay sprang onto his horse. "Bear yourself well," said the King.</p>
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1315	Ful glad and blith was Syr Ywayne, When Sir Kay come him ogayn. Bot Kay wist nocht wha it was; He findes his fere now or he pas. Syr Ywayne thinkes now to be wroken		Sir Ywain was very glad when Sir Kay came against him, but Kay didn't know who he was.
1320	On the grete wordes that Kay has spoken. Thai rade togeder with speres kene; There was no reverence tham bitwene. Sir Ywayn gan Sir Kay bere Out of his sadel lenkith of his spere;	<i>who companion; goes forth avenged</i>	Sir Ywain thought he would now get revenge for Kay's sharp words. They rode fiercely at each other with sharp spears, and Sir Ywain unhorsed Sir Kay
1325	His helm unto the erth smate; A fote depe tharein yt bate. He wald do him na more despite, Bot down he lighted als tyte. Syr Kay stede he toke in hy	<i>the length stuck injury quickly Kay's horse; haste</i>	so that his helm dug into the earth a foot deep. But Sir Ywain would do Kay no more disgrace and dismounted. He took Sir Kay's steed and courteously presented it to the king.
1330	And presand the king ful curtaysly. Wonder glad than war thai all That Kay so fowl a shame gan fall; And ilkone sayd til other then, "This es he that scornes al men";	<i>presented [it to]</i>	Everyone was happy to see Kay brought to such shame, and they said to each other that Kay's scorn to all men was well repaid.
1335	Of his wa war thai wele paid. Syr Ywain than to the kyng said, "Sir Kyng, I gif to the this stede, For he may help the in thi nede; And to me war it grete trispas	<i>to the woe; pleased</i>	Sir Ywain then said to Arthur, "Sir King, I give you this steed, for he may help you in your need; and it would be a great trespass to withhold what is yours."
1340	Forto withhald that yowres was." "What man ertow?" quod the kyng; "Of the have I ne knawyng, Bot if thou unarmed were Or els thi name that I might here."	<i>what rightly belongs to you</i>	The king asked, "Who are you? I don't know you unless I see you unarmed or hear your name."
1345	"Lord," he sayd, "I am Ywayne." Than was the king ferly fayne; A sari man than was Sir Kay, That said that he was stollen oway; Al descumfite he lay on grownde,	<i>wondrous joyful</i>	When he heard "Lord, I am Ywain!" he was elated. Sir Kay, who had said Sir Ywain had stolen away, was a sorry man as he lay on the ground.
1350	To him that was a sary stownde. The king and his men war ful glad, That they so Sir Ywayne had, And ful glad was Sir Gawayne Of the weelfare of Sir Ywayne.	<i>grevious moment</i>	The king and his men were glad for Sir Ywain's victory, and Sir Gawain was happiest of all for Sir Ywain's welfare, as he loved him above all others at court.
1355	For nane was to him half so dere Of al that in the court were. The king Sir Ywayn sone bisoght To tel him al how he had wrought; And sone Sir Ywayne gan him tell	<i>what he had done</i>	The king asked Sir Ywain how this had come about, and the knight told him the full story of his battle at the well, his marriage, and the help he had received from the maiden.
1360	Of al his fare how it byfell: With the knight how that he sped, And how he had the lady wed, And how the mayden hym helped wele. Thus tald he to him ilka dele.	<i>all the details</i>	

Mary Flowers Braswell, ed., *Sir Perceval of Galles and Ywain and Gawain*, Medieval Institute Publications 1995

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